

September 19, 2006

ARASA NOTES #106

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Summer is over and we continue to see changes both at Amtrak and within our Organization. Two of our most experienced union officers have taken management jobs, our FST/VCG Ed Hanson and Eastern District Chairperson Nan Clark. We wish them well and thank them for all their hard work for ARASA.

Julie Byrne is our new FST/VGC. Sister Byrne brings years of loyal service to our union and she is respected her peers and management as one of our most outstanding supervisors. Brother Larry Vollten is our new Eastern District Chairman and will do a great job of representing our members on the east coast. We thank both of them for stepping up to assist ARASA during these difficult times. We have updated our ARASA Lodge 5093 officer contact list on the TCU web site, www.tcunion.org.

Regarding the 25 Manager, Service Quality positions at various locations around the country, we filed multiple claims regarding these jobs and TCU is providing full assistance in the fight to retain ARASA positions. We are sure you agree that the work these managers are doing is the same that ARASA Supervisors have performed since the mid- 1970's...even Ray Charles could have seen that.

Needless to say, the current climate at Amtrak and in this country is not union friendly. Each of you can help: **“Vote your JOB!”** in November! Regardless of your position on social issues, if you do not vote your job, you may not have one soon. Look for mailing from TCU soon regarding the upcoming elections.

Meanwhile, my advice is simply to do the best job you can each day. We recognize that these are very trying times for all of us; we will continue our efforts to keep ARASA Supervisors in a viable role at Amtrak. Meanwhile, keep the faith.

In solidarity,

Jay N. Fountain
President and General Chairman
ARASA 5093